

CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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**CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

State Capitol, Room 113

Sacramento, CA

Minutes of Meeting

November 18, 2004

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Thomas Calderon
Diane M. Griffiths
Vicki Marti
Lynn Schenk
Michael R. Yamaki

CMAC STAFF PRESENT

J. Keith Berger, Executive Director
Theresa Bueno
Paul Cerles
Denise DeTrano
Holland Golec
Shivani Nath
Steve Soto
Michael Tagupa
Mervin Tamai

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Nancy E. McFadden, Chair
Teresa P. Hughes

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Sands, Department of Finance
Sunni Burns, Department of Health Services

I. Call to Order

The November 18, 2004 open session meeting of the California Medical Assistance Commission (CMAC) was called to order, in the absence of Chair Nancy E. McFadden, by Commissioner Thomas Calderon. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes

The November 4, 2004 meeting minutes were approved as prepared by CMAC staff.

III. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Berger reported that there were no new requests by hospitals or health plans to appear before the Commission in closed session at this time, however, there have been several hospitals who have asked for an opportunity to appear before the Commission in closed session. CMAC staff will notice the hospitals' request for discussion and scheduling at the December 9 meeting.

The Executive Director stated that he would be keeping his public comments brief because of the lengthy closed session agenda. Mr. Berger informed the Commission that there are 36 new contracts, hospital, and managed care amendments for action in today's closed session. He further noted that there is an additional large group of amendments that need to be discussed with the Commission before noticing them for the December 9 meeting.

Mr. Berger then asked Ms. Burns if she would give the Commission a brief update on the Selective Provider Contracting Program (SPCP) waiver, Medi-Cal hospital redesign financing, and the related meetings that have taken place in the past two weeks.

Ms. Burns noted that DHS and CMAC staff had gone back to Baltimore on November 8 to meet with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) technical staff to go over additional information requested by CMS.

She further noted that Stan Rosenstein, DHS Deputy Director of Medical Care Services, Kimberly Belshé, Agency Secretary of Health and Human Services, and, Sandra Shewry, DHS Director had gone back again to Washington D.C. to meet with CMS executive staff on November 15 to discuss the waiver concepts with CMS staff. Ms. Burns indicated that while CMS has not yet accepted the idea of the waiver, they have not rejected the idea either. CMS committed to continue working with the State on the proposal.

CMS concerns include the level of federal funds, the source of the documentation for the Certified Public Expenditures (CPE) system, which would come from reports from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). CMS also questioned how the Upper Payment Limits would be impacted if the State were to rebase it, the inclusion of LA County Waiver in the new waiver, and the coverage of new Medicaid eligible persons to help fund indigent care under the new waiver.

Mr. Berger noted that he is aware that significant amounts of additional information is being provided to the federal government. He stated the waiver proposal is an important step in stabilizing the hospital financing structure within the Medi-Cal program. Both DHS and CMAC are working diligently to bring about acceptance of the new concept waiver.

IV. Medi-Cal Managed Care Activities

Mr. Berger indicated that there is nothing new to report at this time, however, there are a number of issues to be discussed in closed session that relate directly to negotiated amendments that are before the Commissioners for action today.

V. New Business/Public Comments/Adjournment

There being no further new business and no additional comments from the public, Commissioner Thomas Calderon recessed the open session. Commissioner Calderon opened the closed session, and after closed session items were addressed, adjourned the closed session, at which time the Commission reconvened in open session. Commissioner Calderon announced that the Commission had taken action on hospital and managed care contracts and amendments in closed session. The open session was then adjourned.